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the collegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

VOL. 118 NO. 147

kstatecollegian.com



Tomorrow:
High: 74 °F
Low: 58 °F



Thursday:
High: 73 °F
Low: 54 °F

02

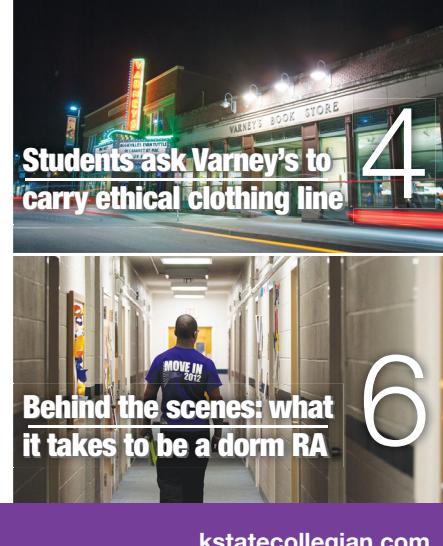
Talk to me
One Fourum entry
bashes Brownback for
not addressing students

03

Just lay off
One writer says society
should cut troubled
celebs some slack

04

Is it time?
Sound-off discusses
when Derrick Rose
should make his return



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Gov. Brownback visits K-State to advocate funding for higher education

Mike Stanton
assistant news editor

Gov. Sam Brownback met with representatives of K-State on Monday morning to discuss the future of higher education funding in the state. The meeting was a stop on Brownback's tour of all the Board of Regents state universities.

The governor presented a brief power point that, among other things, reminded the group about his Road Map for Higher Education, including his goals to build the biosciences and improve school rankings, wrote Sherriene Jones-Sontag, communications director and press secretary for Brownback's office, in an e-mail Monday.

The three people representing K-State's student body were SGA president Eli Schooley, SGA vice president Jake Unruh and speaker of the Student Senate Kyle Nuss. They were joined by high-ranking university administrators including President Kirk Schulz and Vice President for Student Life Pat Bosco.

Brownback, a Republican, is touring Kansas universities in response to proposed cuts to the state's higher education budget. The state House of Representatives has passed a 4 percent cut and the state Senate is considering a 2 percent reduction, while the governor favors maintaining the current level of funding.

"Obviously, we're big fans of Brownback's plan," Schooley said. "The legislature will have to work out the differences between the plans."

The legislature's session resumes May 8. At issue, accord-

ing to Schooley, is a proposed renewal of a sales tax hike. If no action is taken, the state sales tax rate is scheduled to drop from 6.3 percent to 5.7 percent in July, resulting in a significant reduction in the state's revenue.

"The governor and the Senate are in favor of keeping the tax rate up, but the House wants to lower it," Schooley said. "That decision will have a huge effect on K-State."

courtesy photo
Gov. Sam Brownback fields questions from K-State administrators and SGA leaders on Monday at the K-State Student Union. Brownback, who advocates maintaining current funding levels for higher education, faces strong pushback from the state legislature, which has proposed several budget cuts.



New heights



Evert Nelson | Collegian

A patriotic hot air balloon glows from within as it lifts a group of students into the sky over the front lawn of Anderson Hall on Monday night. Hundreds of people lined up in front of the hall to take a ride. The event was organized by the Union Program Council and was originally scheduled to take place last August, but poor weather forced the UPC to reschedule the ride.

Jeana Lawrence
staff writer

On Monday night, a red, white and blue air balloon lifted K-State students 100 feet in the air over the front lawn of Anderson Hall. The Union Program Council, which hosted the balloon rides, originally planned to hold the event last August during the fall activities fair but had to reschedule it due to inclement weather.

"It was awesome," said Laura Oxler, member of the UPC entertainment committee and senior in journalism and mass communications. "We were the test run so I was kind of nervous, but it was really fun to see Manhattan from that high in the air. From the ground, it just didn't seem that high up there."

In order to erect the 75-foot-tall balloon, workers first had to use a large metal fan to inflate it partially. The balloon slowly expanded for 40 minutes until it was safe to turn on the flame, which heated the air in the balloon, causing it to inflate further and begin rising.

Once the balloon was ready, the UPC committee that planned the event took the first trip into the air. Afterwards, groups of six went up for one to two minutes before touching down.

"It was a lot of fun," said Kaitlin Shea, a UPC member who helped plan the event and senior in public relations. "I've never ridden in one and it was cool to see campus from so high."

As students exited the balloon, volunteers leapt onto the sides of the basket in order to keep it grounded while students departed. Volunteers jumped into the basket as students jumped out in order to maintain the appropriate weight and prevent the balloon, which was tethered to a large tree, a lamppost and two trucks, from flying into the air unexpectedly.

"It was kind of scary. When we got to the top, it didn't look as high as it did from the ground, but it was still high at the top."

Jameson Sedlacek
K-State alum

Hundreds of students got the chance to ride the balloon over four hours.

"It was kind of scary," said K-State alum Jameson Sedlacek. "When we got to the top, it didn't look as high as it did from the ground, but it was still high at the top."

Sedlacek, who said he is scared of heights, was convinced to go on the ride by his friend Andrew Kohls, an international student adviser.

"It was fantastic," Kohls said. "It was a great turnout. I was disappointed that they cancelled it earlier this year but really glad they had it today because it's a refreshing thing to do right before finals."

One year after opening, nonprofit restaurant Local closes its doors

Jena Sauber
edge editor

A year and two days after opening, Local Food and Friends, a pioneer in the nonprofit restaurant industry, has closed its doors forever. While open, the restaurant donated approximately \$20,000 to local charities and nonprofit organizations.

The restaurant officially closed after business hours on Sunday and announced the closure on its official Facebook page on Monday afternoon. HCI Hospitality, the company that owns Local, made the decision to close the restaurant came after the establishment accrued significant business-associated costs.

"We have lost over three times that amount [\$20,000 dollars] in business practices," said Blake Bauer, CEO of HCI Hospitality. "We felt that it was best to be able to give directly to the community."

Local donated 100 percent of its prof-

its back to community organizations, including groups such as the Boys and Girls Club of Manhattan, the United Way and K-State Proud. Organizations could apply to be the featured group for a day, week or month. All profits collected during that time period were donated to that nonprofit.

The cuisine featured locally grown fruits and vegetables in Manhattan-inspired specialties like the Wildcat Burger and Meet Me in Manhattan Pizza.

The restaurant and HCI Hospitality are owned by Dave Dreiling, who also owns a number of other restaurants in Manhattan, as well as GTM Sportswear. Dreiling graduated from K-State in 1989.

Bauer said that although Local is closed, Dreiling will continue to contribute to local nonprofit organizations.

"Annually, he gives to a whole slew of charities," Bauer said. "Although this vehicle is something that is no longer open, it will not change his donations to the community."

Call **776-5577**

ACROSS

- 1 Docket entry
- 5 Heidi's range
- 9 One's years
- 12 Greatly
- 13 Inquisitive
- 14 Present
- 15 Madison's place
- 17 Exist
- 18 Ardor
- 19 Cuts into cubes
- 21 Extra
- 24 Rover's friend
- 25 Difficult
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- 30 Carte lead-in
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- 32 Rotation duration
- 33 Outwardly curved on both sides
- 35 Bouquet holder
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DOWN

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- 40 —
- 43 Grayish metallic element
- 48 A Gershwin
- 49 Author Hunter
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- 21 Moby-Dick's pursuer
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- 39 Unembellished
- 40 Drescher or Lebowitz
- 41 Zits
- 44 Poison —
- 45 Charged bit
- 46 Portion of N.A.
- 47 "Family Guy" daughter

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 5-7

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the FOURUM®

785-260-0207

The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

I sure do love it when the janitors take a day off from cleaning the bathroom on campus I frequent.

I am listening to a person get help from a math tutor right now and half of what the tutor is saying is incorrect.

A little splash of Sprite should do the trick.

Green hair and green eyebrows. That is awesome.

Poor Bentley. Just found out this year will be his last Christmas.

So, we are champions of Big 12 football, basketball, track and maybe baseball?? It's the age of the Wildcat, it seems.

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Governor Brownback's budget cuts are the reason there aren't enough pepperonis in my pizza lunchable.

Governor Brownback came to K-State to speak about higher ed funding and tuition but didn't speak to students. Great job there, Mr. Not Getting Re-elected.

Editor's note: To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email thefourum@kstatecollegian.com. Your email address or phone number is logged but not published.

Logan's Run | By Aaron Logan



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The Collegian welcomes your letters. We reserve the right to edit submitted letters for clarity, accuracy, space and relevance. A letter intended for publication should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article that appeared in the Collegian within the last 10 issues. It must include the author's first and last name, year in school and major. If you are a graduate of K-State, the letter should include your year(s) of graduation and must include the city and state where you live. For a letter to be considered, it must include a phone number where you can be contacted. The number will not be published. Letters can be sent to letters@kstatecollegian.com.

Letters may be rejected if they contain abusive content, lack timeliness, contain vulgarity, profanity or falsehood, promote personal and commercial announcements, repeat comments of letters printed in other issues or contain attachments.

The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call managing editor Darrington Clark at 785-532-6556 or email news@kstatecollegian.com.

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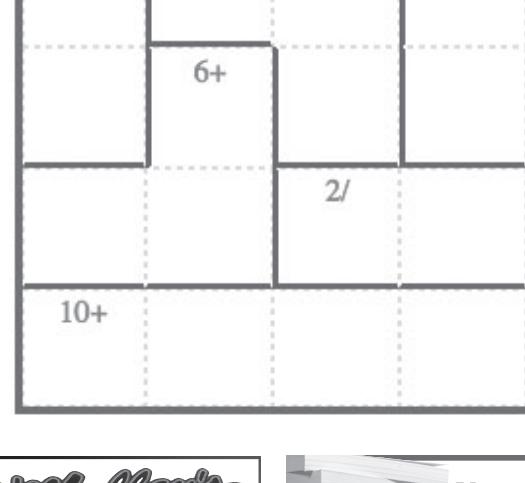
All weather information courtesy of the National Weather Service.

For up-to-date forecasts, visit nws.noaa.gov.

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KenKen | Medium

Use numbers 1-4 in each row and column without repeating. The numbers in each outlined area must combine to produce the target number in each area using the mathematical operation indicated.



5-7

CRYPTOQUIP

U' K Z Q Y V J X L B J A J V M U G R L N B

Y H Z S U V X Y , S V K P V I L Z Q J B

Y V P Z U Q V X R N L A B Y L B I O Z A .

U L ' Y Y U K H J A O U M Z G !

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN EMPLOYEES AT A CERTAIN HIGH-TECH WORKPLACE LAUGH, I THINK YOU CALL THEM GOOGLE'S GIGGLES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals I

THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

Sunday, May 5

Destiny Jo Dwyer, of Junction City, was booked for unlawful possession of hallucinogens and possession of paraphernalia to grow or distribute marijuana. Bond was set at \$3,000.

Monday, May 6

Leon T. Jordan, of Ogden, was booked for domestic battery and witness or victim intimidation. Bond was set at \$2,000.

Kelly Jean Morris, of the 1100 block of Ninth Street, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$135.

Compiled by Katie Goerl

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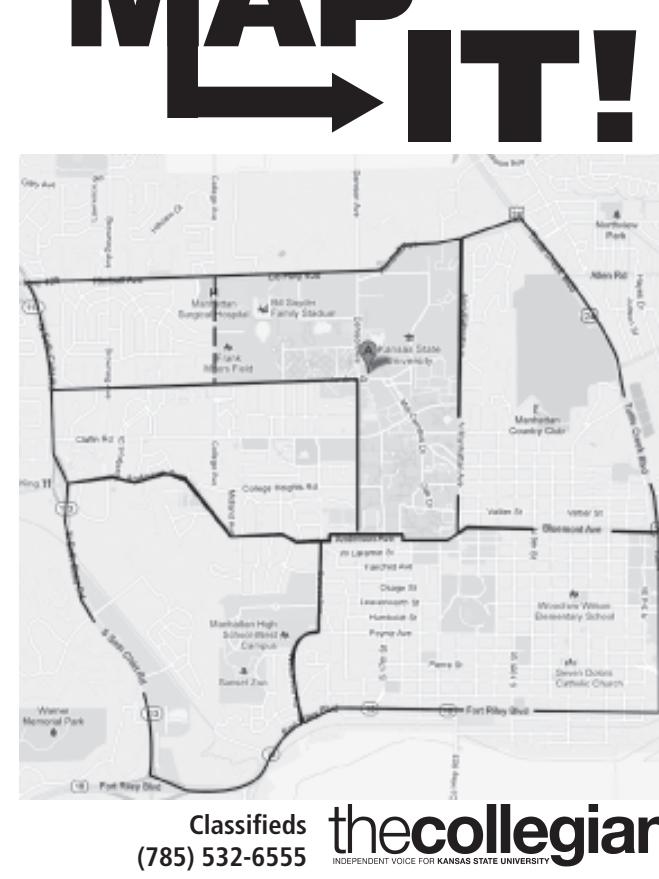
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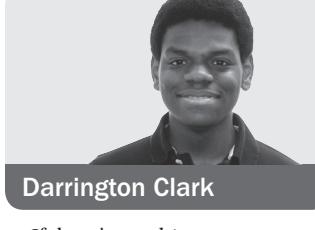
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Want more Collegian?



Media, society too harsh on out-of-favor celebrities



Darrington Clark

If there's anything we as a society love to watch, it's the destruction of another person's success.

That may be an innate quality that is terribly embedded in all of us humans, but our popular culture has taken it one step further: we hand over fame, fortune and power just to take it away.

On April 9, Lindsay Lohan appeared on the David Letterman show, just before she was set to begin a weeklong rehab sentence. Lohan was on the show to promote her most recent movie, "Scary Movie 5." The interview lasted an hour, but the movie wasn't mentioned until 35 minutes in. All the time before that was used to drag Lohan through the dirt.

Right in front of her face, Letterman fired off insulting questions about Lohan's past, continually compared her current career to her "sweet, innocent" past self, and before she stopped him, he'd planned to do an entire segment dedicated to her criminal offenses. The interview ended with Lindsay Lohan in tears.

I could say that Lohan deserves all the flack that she catches from talk show hosts, media outlets and bloggers, but I don't have to because she already said it. Lohan is the first to admit that her own decisions have led to her personal breakdowns and mishaps, but I don't think she had anything to do with the media "train wreck" sensation she became. That was all of us. For years now, we've been watching her like hawks, eager for her to misstep so we could make a witty joke about it.

In the same interview that Letterman used to disrespect her, Lohan tried to be funny, rolling with the punches and even cracking a few jokes about herself. Puns aside, she admitted to Letterman that she'd made mistakes in the past, and that's where she intended to keep them. She said rehab was the best thing for her, and she's grateful for the people who have supported her through this rough patch in her life. Letterman said he and the live studio audience supported her, too — right before cracking another joke.

The truth of the matter is, at this point, there's nothing Lohan can do. I think our desire to watch powerful people fail has created a trap system for celebrities: it doesn't matter what you do when we like you, but we'll never forget a mistake when we don't. The problem with this is that it messes with these celebrities' livelihoods. These famous people (and they are people, although some tend to forget that) have no personal life. There's no private area for them to practice in — they have to make their mistakes in front of us. Prime example: the Biebs.

Justin Bieber grew up in fame,

and for some time now we've been cheering for his success. Granted, it's mainly been teen girls cheering, but don't discount his many middle-aged and male fans. Then, suddenly, we didn't like him any more. Bieber was stigmatized when police found marijuana on his tour bus (Bieber wasn't there; it was just on the bus), and he was deemed irresponsible when an unsupervised party occurred in his home (again, Bieber wasn't there).

A few months ago he was an amazingly talented rising star who was changing the face of musical

style and longevity. Currently, he's an overzealous, prideful little kid with drug issues and no respect for others. Really? Just took up Bieber's charity donations. Just look at them.

Lohan will always have to deal with substance abuse, R&B singer Brandy will always have to deal with hitting someone with her car; Whitney Houston and Amy Winehouse, bless them both, were plagued by constant criticism and endless rumors, and let's not even talk about Chris Brown. Actually, let's.

Everybody knows that Chris Brown assaulted Rihanna in 2009. We know that a short time later, he issued a public apology that seemed a bit forced and read like an ASPCA commercial. To this day, though, he cannot escape his media image of being a violent loose cannon.

From debacles with fellow (clearly inferior) rapper Drake, to completely falsified confrontations with newer artist Frank Ocean, any situation Chris Brown finds himself in, he's the bad guy.

Of course, domestic violence against women or men isn't acceptable in any way, but since the initial incident, Chris and Rihanna have spoken out several times about how they've had a dialogue about what happened and decided to preserve a relationship. I don't think a truly violent man would be able to do that.

People can fuss and rant all they please about the lives of celebrities and how ashamed they should be of the things they did years ago, but people aren't aware of the power they hold. Actors and musicians are personally affected by their image, positive or negative. Generating hate about a celebrity may be an easy way to get a laugh or make a buck, but it can also alter how much they can

give back as a part of their craft. Many people discredit Lohan's acting skills now, but how could she ever feel good about what she does when she's always on the end of a cruel, tear-inducing joke?

In the end, the entertainment industry is meant to do one thing and nothing more: entertain. The more we criticize the people whom we pay to put their lives on display for us, the worse we make it for ourselves and our fellow man. The actions of celebrities can't just be taken for granted, and of course they can offer excellent points of discussion, but we as a society have to draw a line when it comes to degradation. I don't think it's a force of nature that we can't stop. Instead, it's a classic case of treating people the way you want to be treated.

When somebody, anybody, is trying to pick their life back up, lay off the snarky comments. Simple as that.

Darrington Clark is a sophomore in journalism and digital media. Please send comments to opinion@kstate-collegian.com.



Illustration by Aaron Logan

ATA bus a necessity to many international students, local residents



Karina Fiegelist

The ATA bus is not essential for the daily routines of the majority of people in the Little Apple. Although many students and faculty at K-State own a car, the ATA bus is still a source of transportation needed by many. However, as the town of Manhattan is growing and moving forward, the ATA busing service is just the beginning of something bigger. The number of residents in Manhattan is increasing every year, which means a potential increase in people needing transportation around town.

This issue is important to consider. Although the Manhattan City Commission cut its 2012-13 budget by 5 percent, the Flint Hills Area Transportation Agency is still running the ATA bus through financial contributions provided by the city and other sources of funding, including K-State, Pottawatomie, Geary and Riley counties, the Federal Transit Administration and the Kansas Department of Transportation. This system will be suitable until Flint Hills ATA can generate profit within its current budget and form a backup plan in order to keep providing busing services.

The majority of K-State and Manhattan residents who own a car might consider the ATA bus to be a nonessential and unimportant service, but they haven't taken the time to think about minority groups at K-State. International stu-

dents like myself find the bus useful on a daily basis. Often, these students use it to travel from their apartment complexes to campus and to go grocery shopping.

The bus not only serves international students, but also those who can't afford a car or who don't want to drive their cars every day. Driving to campus can cause students to waste gas money and time looking for parking. There are a lot of students, like me, whose parents, for safety and monetary reasons, don't or can't provide a car. Additionally, international students usually return home after concluding their studies. For this reason, it is pointless to invest in a car.

"Every day we, the Ecuadorian exchange group, use it to get to class, to get our groceries, basically do everything," said Martha Zambrano, student in the ELP program at K-State. "Cutting the bus service would affect almost the 90 percent of the large group of Ecuadorians. Only 1 percent of the group owns a car."

I personally have been at K-State for two and a half

years. A year after I got here, in the spring of 2012, K-State and Flint Hills ATA began offering an ATA bus route through campus, and the fixed routes started to be provided more frequently. Only a short time has passed since then, and the service is already receiving a budget cut. If further budget cuts threaten the operation of the ATA bus, it would have detrimental effects on many in the local community, said Isaac Huffman, sophomore in psychology.

"It would be really bad for residents that don't have a car," Huffman said.

There is a group of K-State students who live off campus, who don't own a car or don't want to drive it to school for lack of parking or time. Taking funding away from the ATA bus hurts K-State students more than most people realize. The ATA bus is important, and its funding should be prioritized.

Karina Fiegelist is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstate-collegian.com.

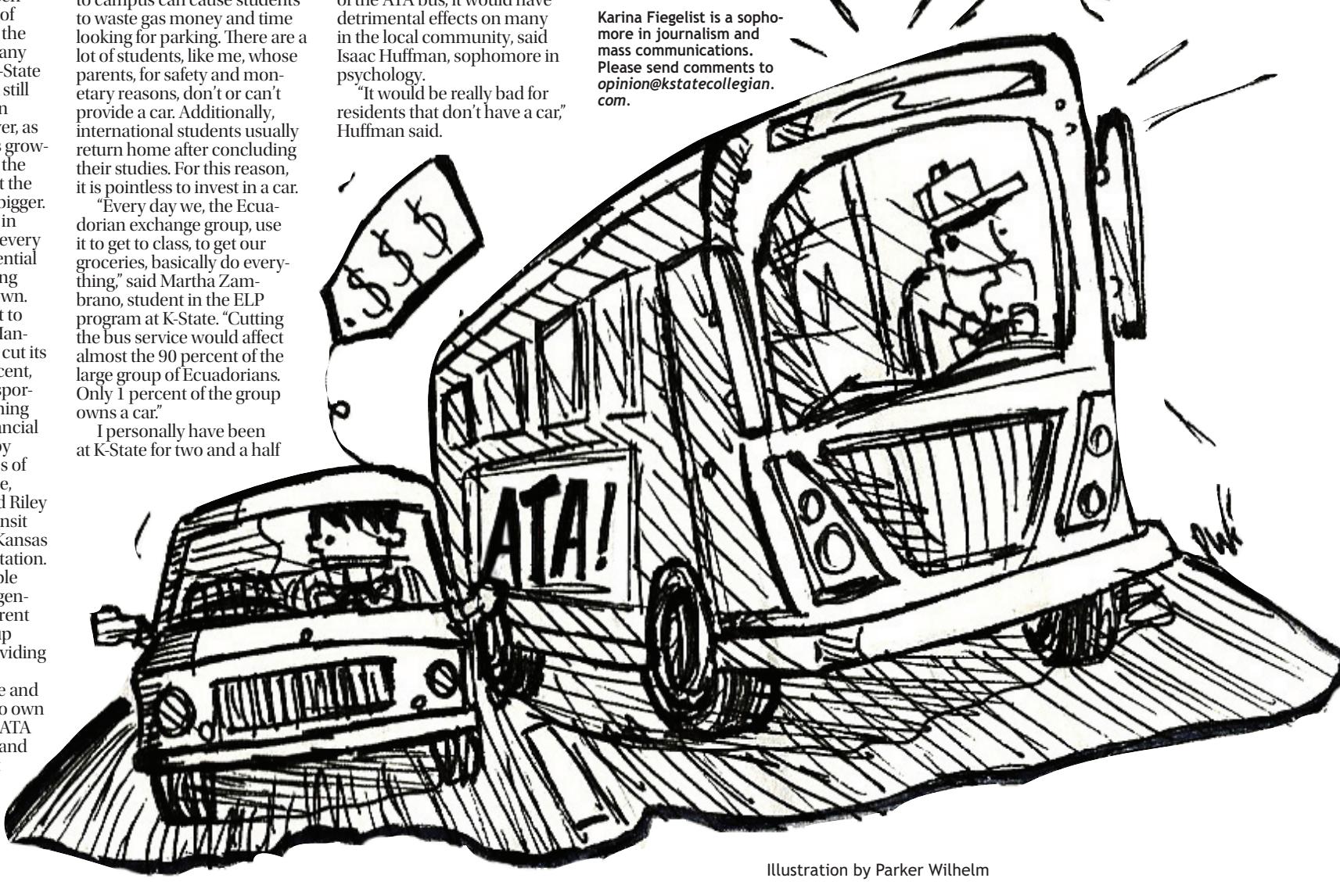
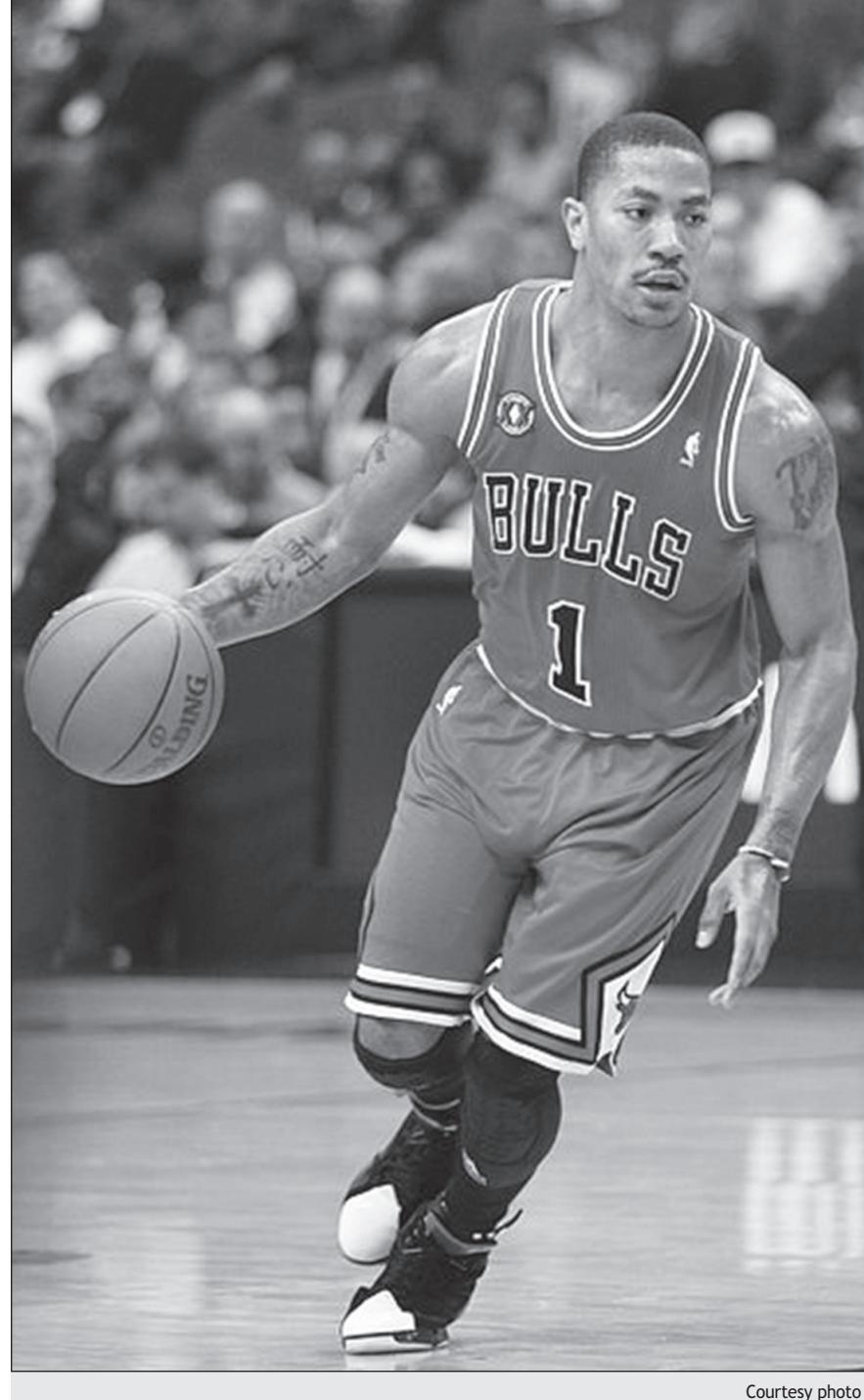


Illustration by Parker Wilhelm

Soundoff: Should Derrick Rose return to the court?



Derrick Rose, point guard for the Chicago Bulls, surveys the court against the Washington Wizards on Feb. 28, 2012, at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. Rose, a former league MVP, tore his ACL during the 2012 playoffs and has not seen action in a game since.

Courtesy photo

There is no denying that, when healthy, very few players can dominate the NBA like Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose. His athleticism and tenacity are nearly unparalleled in the league. However, Rose tore his ACL last season in the first game of the playoffs against the Philadelphia 76ers, and he has not played since.

Fast-forward to last night in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semifinals, and Rose has still not touched the floor. After stealing the game from defending champion Miami Heat, two members of the sports staff decide whether or not Rose should come back during the seven-game semifinal playoff.



Mark Kern

The Chicago Bulls have been devastated by injuries. Besides Rose being out, players like Luol Deng and Kirk Hinrich have been unable to play in the past few games. However, center Joakim Noah has been a beast in these games and single-handedly willed the team

to a Game 7 victory over the Brooklyn Nets.

With Nate Robinson taking over late in Game 1, the Bulls were able to steal a game in Miami. With an opportunity to pull the upset over Miami, the Bulls need their superstar. That is where Rose comes in.

Rose has been cleared to play since March 8, and for a player of such high caliber, it's insane that he has not yet started playing for the Bulls.

New York Knicks guard Iman Shumpert tore his ACL the very same day as Rose and has been playing for the past five months.

Rose has a chance to regain his role as the top

dog in the city of Chicago. Rose was once the most beloved athlete in Chicago, but many fans are growing more and more frustrated with him sitting on the bench. Coming back to knock out the star-studded Miami Heat team would be one of the greatest post-season comeback stories in sports history.

Rose has been outstanding for the Bulls his whole career, but it is time for him to get back where he belongs, and that is on the court.

Mark Kern is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.



Sean Frye

All the speculation regarding the potential return of Derrick Rose has got to stop. Rose should not return in the Chicago Bulls' Eastern Conference semifinal matchup against the Miami Heat. The Bulls have done just fine without him up to this point.

The play of the Bulls' point guards has been particularly outstanding this postseason. Nate Robinson taking the Bulls through much of their first-round series against the Brooklyn Nets, as well as late in the game against the Heat.

According to an ESPN report, Rose is not ruling out

a return from his ACL injury during the Bulls' playoff series against the Heat. However, the Bulls have managed to get this far without Rose in the lineup, so it wouldn't make sense to shuffle up the lineup by throwing Rose into it in the middle of the postseason.

The Bulls have had a pretty good year against the Heat. The Bulls are now 3-2 against the defending champions and ended the Heat's 27-game winning streak in Chicago on March 27 when the Bulls downed the Heat 101-97.

All of that was without Rose.

Although the recent trend of athletes recovering well from ACL injuries seems to be positive (see Adrian Peterson), it would be stupid for the Bulls to throw a player into the lineup in the middle of the playoffs who hasn't played a single minute of the season.

The time for Rose to return

was in the regular season. He was cleared in March, but chose not to return because he wanted to get emotionally ready. And while that's understandable, it would be unfair of Rose to suddenly come out and say he's ready to play after his team has done so well in the playoffs.

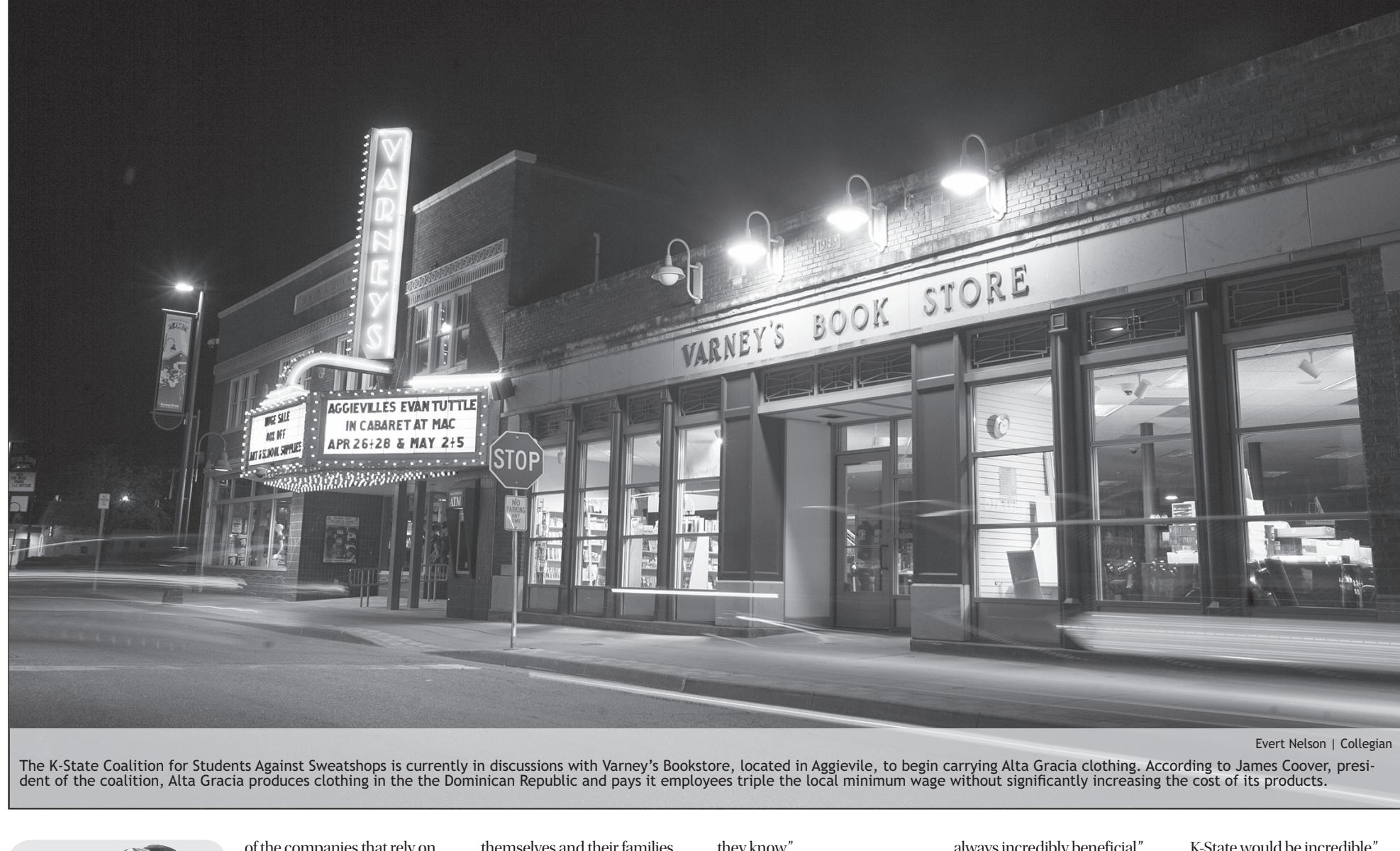
The Bulls have succeeded without Rose, a true testament to the coaching of Tom

Thibodeau and the Bulls players, who have all stepped up in the former MVP's absence. When Rose returns next year, he'll be an outstanding addition to a system that is now working, and he will likely put the Bulls in the hunt for the NBA title.

But for now, as the old saying goes, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Sean Frye is a junior in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

Students urge Varney's to carry ethically produced clothing line



Evert Nelson | Collegian

The K-State Coalition for Students Against Sweatshops is currently in discussions with Varney's Bookstore, located in Aggievile, to begin carrying Alta Gracia clothing. According to James Coover, president of the coalition, Alta Gracia produces clothing in the Dominican Republic and pays its employees triple the local minimum wage without significantly increasing the cost of its products.



Jakki Thompson

In the world of consumerism, the United States is driven by capitalism: the belief in buying and selling in a race for who can be the most successful. The K-State Coalition for Students Against Sweatshops is committed to ending the exploitation of overseas sweatshop workers by U.S. companies.

"There has been a lot of mixed information about sweatshops and the effects of purchasing these products here in the U.S.," said James Coover, president of the K-State Coalition for Students Against Sweatshops and graduate student in agronomy.

U.S. corporations like Nike, Disney, Wal-Mart, Reebok, Phillips-Van Heusen, the Gap, Liz Claiborne, Ralph Lauren, J.C. Penney and Sears are just some

of the companies that rely on overseas sweatshop labor, typically from nations in South and Southeast Asia, according to the Do Something Campaign.

As some of these companies and brands are affiliated with K-State or are present in the larger Manhattan community, some K-State students have taken an interest in ensuring that the university does not support companies that exploit foreign workers in sweatshops.

Members of the K-State Coalition for Students Against Sweatshops have begun preliminary discussions with Varney's Bookstore to begin selling the Alta Gracia fair wage line of clothing.

"Alta Gracia is a brand that not only gives people the option of purchasing fair-wage clothing, but to show there is a choice in the buying options," Coover said.

Coover said one of the worst effects of purchasing non-fair wage clothing is that it perpetuates the cycle of oppression for the people working in these factories. He explained that people in these factories are kept in very low-wage situations that make it difficult to support

themselves and their families and to help their children receive an education. When those children become old enough, they have to work to help their families, and their lack of education or other qualifications mean they are unable to move upward in socio-economic status.

Alta Gracia is different from many large textile businesses, especially those that print collegiate clothing. Alta Gracia, which is based in the Dominican Republic, pays its workers three times the local minimum wage. Yet even though the company's workers are earning relatively high wages, the cost of the clothing sold in the U.S. is not significantly affected.

Coover and Kathryn Douglass, vice president of the K-State Coalition of Students Against Sweatshops and sophomore in biological and agricultural engineering, have both been pushing hard to see the Alta Gracia line in Varney's and the Union Bookstore.

"There are a lot of students who don't think they have a voice, but we actually have a lot of power," Douglass said. "Students have more power than

they know."

Currently, K-State's athletic contracts are with Nike, which has a history of not helping displaced workers when something overseas goes wrong.

In 2011, some U.S. universities cut ties with Nike after the company refused to pay severance fees to employees in subcontracted Honduran factories.

According to a May 25, 2011, Huffington Post article, Nike "has long said that it could not be held responsible for what its subcontractors did," but it eventually paid workers \$1.5 million due to pressure from American universities.

Rutgers, Cornell, Georgetown and the University of Washington, among others, have moved to sever ties with businesses like Nike and Adidas due to their mistreatment of overseas workers.

Many universities have also threatened to sever ties with Nike and Adidas unless they improved the conditions of their workers.

"We always encourage students to do more research on their own," Douglass said. "There is a lot of information about these infractions that are happening all over the world. Doing more research for themselves is

always incredibly beneficial."

Recently, there was a factory collapse in Bangladesh. According to a May 6 NPR article, the collapse had killed more than 650 people, with some still being pulled from the rubble.

These workers had seen the large cracks in the walls of the building, but the building owner demanded that they enter the factory, threatening them with unemployment if they refused to work, and denied that the building was unsafe.

This is one of the most recent examples of the problems seen in sweatshops. According to a May 2 Forbes Magazine article by Benjamin Powell, Bangladesh has more than 4,500 garment factories that employ approximately 4 million people. And sweatshops in Bangladesh only pay about \$40 per month, according to an April 29 article in The Guardian by Maha Rafi Atal.

Coover said that bringing the Alta Gracia line to K-State would benefit the community by bringing awareness to the topic of sweatshop worker exploitation.

"The awareness the Alta Gracia line would bring to

K-State would be incredible," Coover said. "It would encourage people to question what they buy from stores."

U.S. companies' use of sweatshop labor dates back to the Industrial Revolution, when the United States supported the use of sweatshops domestically. According to the National Endowment for the Humanities, events like the Haymarket Affair, the Homestead Strike and the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire "illustrated the unfair conditions faced by workers as the United States assumed its position as the most highly industrialized nation in the world."

After those four incidents, states began passing laws to improve working conditions in factories and to protect workers' rights to unionize. In response, many large businesses and organizations began outsourcing their business to overseas factories in order to produce the goods that Americans demand at lower costs.

Jakki Thompson is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications and American ethnic studies. Please send comments to news@kstatecollegian.com.

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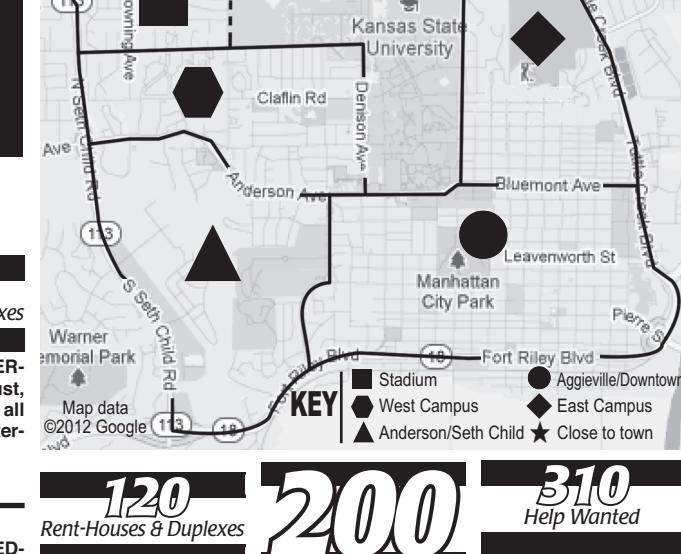
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4 3 7 1 9 6
9 2 8 4 7 6 3 1
8 2 6 4 5 8 7

4 2 5
8 5 4 6 7 8 3 5 9
7 6 4 3 5 9

Difficulty Level ★★★

8 3 7 1 6 5 2 9 4
5 9 2 8 4 7 6 3 1
4 1 6 3 2 9 5 8 7

1 8 4 5 7 2 9 6 3
6 2 3 9 8 4 1 7 5
9 7 5 6 1 3 4 2 8
3 6 8 2 5 1 7 4 9
7 5 9 4 3 6 8 1 2
2 4 1 7 9 8 3 5 6

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For one student, being an RA 'doesn't seem like work'

Hannah Hunsinger
staff writer

They settle disputes, bug you to join floor programs and tell you to turn down the music in the community bathroom. This might be what most students think an RA does, but their job encompasses much more than that. Resident assistants also attend weekly staff meetings, participate in ongoing training, take a full class load (and maintain a cumulative 2.5 GPA), plan programs and keep up with an active social life.

Phil Hill, sophomore in marketing, is a first-time resident assistant this year for the first floor of West Hall.

"I wanted to be an RA because last year ... my RAs were pretty awesome, they encouraged me to be the floor president," Hill said. "I was like, 'Oh, I think I can do that' ... and I thought I was doing half the RA stuff and not getting paid for it last year, why not try it out?"

Even before becoming an RA, Hill was "getting groups together to do stuff, inviting people to go to floor dinner ... being social with the residents, helping people with their problems." Now, however, he gets paid for it.

Hill also has added responsibilities as a resident assistant. RAs attend weekly staff meetings about upcoming programs, current hall events and anything pertaining to West Hall. As an RA, Hill is "on duty" every other week (and three weekends a semester). On those nights, Hill walks the halls on all the floors at least two or three times just to check on West Hall residents — and if there are any shenanigans, he's the one they call to deal with it.

"This is a line the RAs say a lot — 'Oh that sounds fun, but I'm on duty,'" Hill said. "There's always something going on on the weekend that you want to go do when you're on duty, someone always asks you to go and you have to say no because you're on duty."

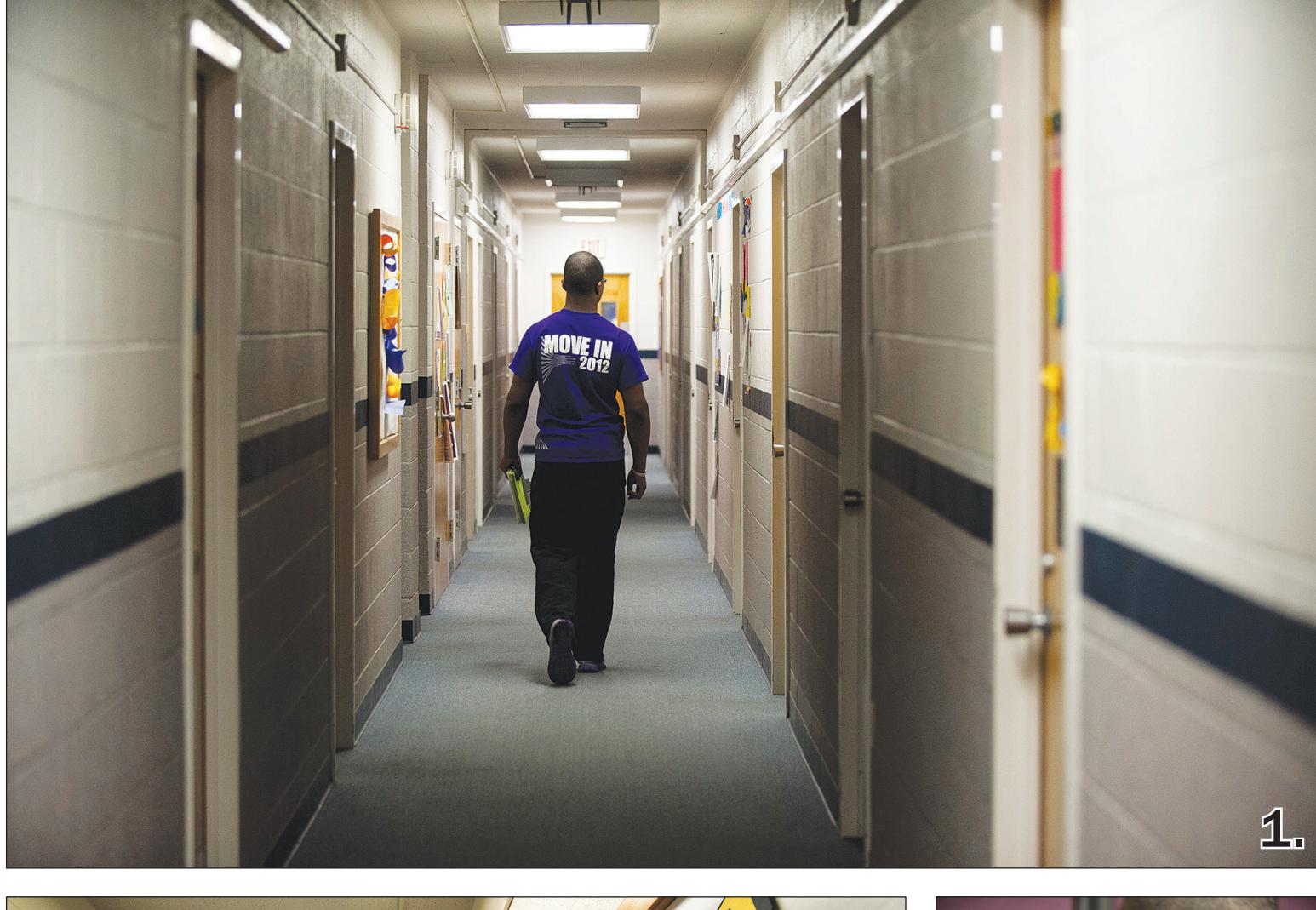
But, he added, "it's not too bad."

Hill also has to plan eight programs each semester, striving to create a variety that appeals to everyone on his floor and helps build the community. For example, Hill created a program called "Tea Time" after finding out that many of the residents on his floor liked tea.

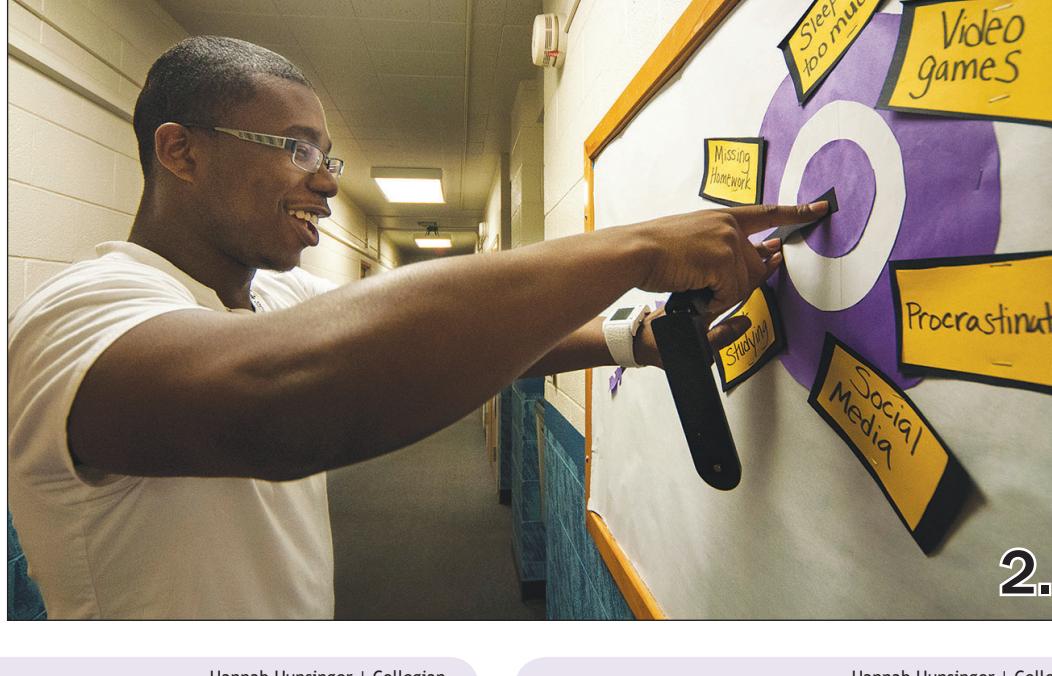
"We just sat out in the lobby, sipped on some tea, had a good talk for like an hour or two. And then that was the start of them getting to know each other," Hill said. "I had some rough times with my programming where the same seven people were showing up, and so I decided to change that up and start doing programs with other floors."

This year, Hill has organized activities like Late Night Cereal Night, Bonfire at Wildcat Creek, Cookie Decorating, a ping-pong tournament and a holiday celebration that included dinner, a gift exchange and a movie.

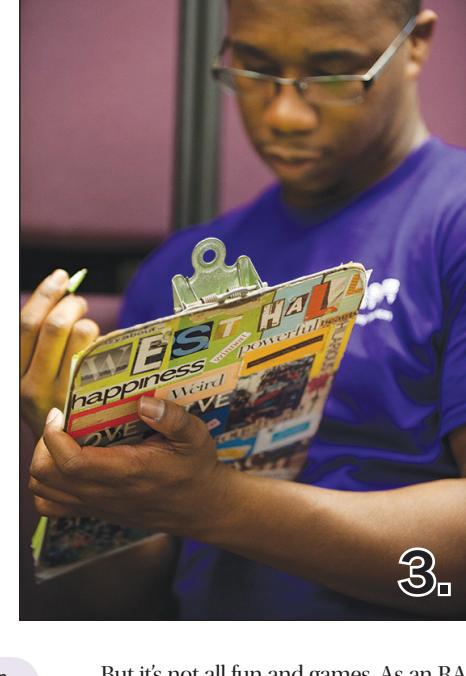
The best part of the job, Hill said, is "getting to know so many people and ... making meaningful relationships with the other RAs."



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Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

ABOVE:

1. On April 11, as part of being "on duty" as an RA, Phil Hill, sophomore in marketing, walks all the halls in West Hall to check the facilities and make sure everything is in order.

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2. Every month, RAs have to change the bulletin boards on their floors. On March 28, Hill worked on the new bulletin board in his hallway, which offered tips to students about how to avoid distractions before finals.

3. After completing his rounds on April 11, Hill fills out the duty log, which details the state of West Hall.

4. Hill, second from right, and the other West Hall RAs joke during a staff meeting in the West Hall basement on April 1. The RAs meet once a week with their residence life coordinator to discuss their work and life in the residence hall.

5. On April 11, Hill studies in his room on the first floor of West Hall. RAs must be able to balance the responsibilities of their jobs with their homework and class schedule.

But it's not all fun and games. As an RA, part of Hill's job is "busting people for stuff and disciplining people."

"I have to do it," said Hill. "I have no problem actually doing it, but it's obviously not the fun part because then you look like a jerk and then you have to write an [incident report], so it's like writing ... a detailed paper on what happened and who was involved and everything."

Not that he has to deal with much: Hill said the first floor of West is "pretty low-key."

"It's very chill," he said. "That's my middle name — Phil 'Chill' Hill."

Hill spent his freshman year in Goodnow Hall, and when he became an RA, he thought that was where he wanted to work. Instead, he was assigned to West Hall and discovered that it was the perfect fit.

"I like [West] more than Goodnow actually," Hill said. "I miss the basketball courts and the tennis courts out back at Goodnow ... but over here ... I got my RA friends, got a ping-pong table in my lobby now, and we've been doing nothing but remodeling West Hall all year. We got new elevators, got a ping-pong table, new pool table downstairs, painted the lobby, painted downstairs."

His appreciation for West Hall is not the only thing that has changed this year. Hill said being an RA has helped him grow as a person.

"I've matured a lot through this, because as an RA ... people are watching you, watching your actions," he said. "So I like to lead by example, because I know people are watching me, so if I follow policies then they're going to follow policies."

A big part of being an RA is balancing all of the job's duties with a full class load.

"This year I've added a planner to my life ... I've never been a planner person before. I just remembered all the stuff I'm supposed to do," Hill said. "But I don't feel like it's that hard; you just have to balance."

So, when does he actually do homework?

"There's plenty of time during the middle of the day when no one's bugging you because they're all in class," he said. "So during the middle of the day I get my study on, throw some headphones on and block everything else out. When I don't actually want to get stuff done I just go out into the lobby."

Hill compares the experience as a whole to parenthood.

"It's like a crash course, kind of what it's like to be a parent. Of like 35 people," Hill said. "You have to discipline them, help them be successful in school. You're around all the time, and they ask you questions all the time."

Hill jokingly added that being an RA is "kind of like having kids, but not really, because they're more responsible — actually they're not more responsible, that's a lie."

Next year, Hill will be one of six RAs returning to West Hall. He has been working alone this year because the first floor is only assigned one RA, while all other floors have two. He said he looks forward to having a staff partner, helping residents plan their own events and building the community in West.

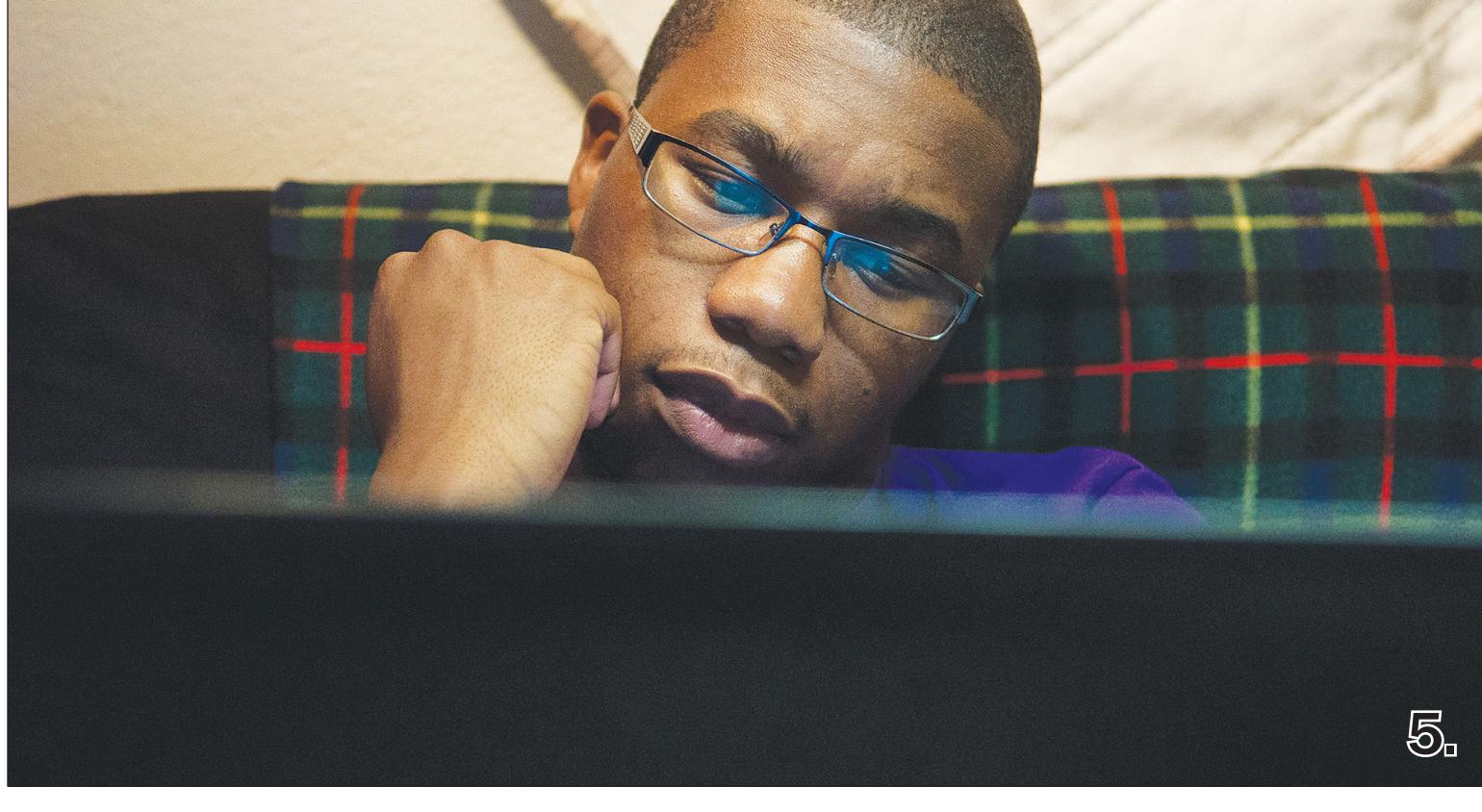
"Next year I feel like ... I'll be more of a leader," Hill said. He said with his experience with filing incident reports, working with the front desk of the hall and learning more about the duties and demands of the job, he hopes to be "the one answering the questions, instead of asking the questions."

Although being an RA is a tough job, full of responsibility and unexpected challenges, Hill describes it as "rewarding."

"I just like to have fun, so that's why I like the job," he said. "It doesn't seem like work half the time."



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